



THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
 Kanji HATA et al. :  
 Serial No. 09/010,490 : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**  
 Filed January 21, 1998 : Docket No.: 177/527415

# COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND COMPONENT MOUNTING EQUIPMENT

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-7 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof, and substitute therefor the following new claims:

-- 8. A component mounting apparatus comprising:

~~16c17 a pair of component supply tables on which components are accommodated and which are arranged on opposing sides of a board mounting position where a board is positioned;~~

a first mounting head section for successively picking up the components at one of the component supply tables and thereafter successively mounting the picked-up components onto the board; and

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